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CHINESE PHYSICS SOCIETY DISCUSSES TEACHING OF PHYSICS

K'o-hsueh T'ung-pao
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The Chinese Physics Society held an enlarged board of directors meeting on 5-9 September for the purpose of dealing with problems involved in the teaching of physics in universities and middle schools. Present at the meeting were the members of the board of directors and chairmen of the boards of directors of various branch organizations, as well as representatives of universities and middle schools who were invited to participate.

The principal objective of this meeting, as stated in the opening speech by Chou P'ei-yuan, chairman of the board of directors, was to discuss the problems in connection with Soviet advanced teaching methods and to consolidate past experiences in this field. By doing this, the use of Soviet methods in the large-scale training of construction cadres can be expedited.

The conference heard Ch'ien San-ch'iang, Vice-chairman of the board, report on "Our Recognition of Soviet Work in Physics," as well as two other reports on general physics education in universities and the teaching of physics in middle schools. These two reports were followed by a detailed discussion during which the direction of future education work was clearly defined.

In the latter part of the meeting, the duties and future work of the Physics Society were discussed. The board of directors acknowledged that the society must assist the government; it must mobilize its members to develop their maximum capacity and utilize their own scientific technical knowledge to fulfill the tasks suggested by the government. The present work of the society is to improve the teaching methods. The key research problems are to raise the political and scientific levels of the members of the society through study of the Soviet and Marxism-Leninism. Therefore, in order to prepare a solid foundation for research work, the board of directors submitted the following proposals:

- (1) Mobilize society members actively to aid educational authorities to promote the teaching of physics in middle schools.
- (2) Coordinate general physics education in universities with a study of past experience, stressing how dialectical materialism can be taught through physics.
- (3) Introduce discussions of experiences and accomplishments in physics research, as well as discussions of important accomplishments of Soviet advanced scientific research.
- (4) Urge members of the society to participate in various scientific activities.

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